

PROJECTED WORKS.—Advertisements have been issued for tenders, by 5th inst., for the erection of a grand stand and stand-keeper's house on Bedford race-course; by 13th inst., for the formation of 9½ miles of the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway, Alston branch, in three contracts; by 26th inst., for 2,520 loads of English elm timber and 27 elm trees for pumps, for her Majesty's Dockyards; by 14th inst., for paving and other works at the Foundling Hospital estate, St. Pancras; by 2nd inst., for the erection of the Lincoln Penitential Females' Home; by same date, for rearranging seats and other alterations in St. Andrew's Church, Worcester; and by 12th inst., for the erection of a farmstead near Hull, on the Charterhouse estate.

THE 1851 EXHIBITION.—The space contemplated by the Royal Commissioners being equal to half-a-mile in length, and 320 feet in width, no time ought to be lost (as you said last week) before commencing a building of such extent, to be completed by the 1st January, 1851. As regards the expense, which will necessarily be very great, I would suggest that the Government may fairly advance 100,000*l.*, to be repaid by the sums raised by admissions. —W. J. D.—The Commissioners have fixed upon the 1st day of May, 1851, for opening the exhibition. The site granted for this purpose is on the south side of Hyde-park, lying between the Kensington drive and the ride commonly called Rotten-row. From the approximate estimate which the Commissioners have been able to make, they believe that the building ought to cover a space of from 16 to 20 acres, or about one million of square feet. The building will be fire-proof. A classified list of objects which may be admitted has been published.

NEW RAILWAY HOTEL IN HULL.—A new hotel has been erected in Hull, close to the railway terminus, of considerable size and pretensions. It was erected from a design by Mr. Andrews, of York, under the superintendence of Mr. Botterill. The contractors were Messrs. Hutchinson and Mr. Siminon. A correspondent has forwarded to us the following particulars:—The building is in the Italian style of architecture. The central parts of the two principal facades are recessed: the ground and first floor stories have arcades of the Doric and Ionic orders, surmounted by an attic order in the second floor story, and crowned with a massive cornice, with consoles in the frieze. The building is faced entirely with stone, from the quarries of North Anston, near Worksop, the same as is employed in the new Houses of Parliament; and the windows of the principal facades are of polished glass, each window containing but two plates, one to each of the sashes. The principal rooms on the ground floor are disposed around a quadrangle, which forms a central hall 60 feet square, covered with skylights of rough plate glass, below the windows of the first floor, and supported on girders of cast-iron. The grand entrance opens through a vestibule into this hall, which has on three sides open arcades with corridors, from whence the rooms are entered. The first-class refreshment-room is 44 feet by 24 feet; ladies' ditto, 24 feet by 21 feet; second-class ditto, 24 feet by 17 feet; coffee-room of T form, extreme dimensions, 51 feet by 33 feet; commercial-room, 38 feet by 25 feet; and smoking-room, 22 feet by 20 feet.

LIVERPOOL ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.—The fortnightly meeting of this society was held on Wednesday evening, last week, the Rev. D. James in the chair. A discussion took place relative to Dr. Chowne's "air-siphon" system of ventilation; but the general opinion of the members seemed to be not very much in its favour. A paper was read by Mr. T. Duncan, on "Rubble Walling."

INSTITUTION OF BUILDERS' FOREMEN.—Mr. W. Cubitt will take the chair at the annual dinner, to be held on the 3rd of April. We would direct attention to the advertisement in another page.

CLEAR SPACE FOR ST. PAUL'S.—Acting on a suggestion of ours, thrown out last year, Mr. Barber, a member of the common council, is taking active steps to obtain the removal of the wall and iron railing round the front and sides of St. Paul's. We will refer to the matter next week, with our best wishes for his success.

THE BUILDERS' SOCIETY DINNER.—The Builders' Society had their annual London dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday in last week; when Mr. Sheriff Lawrence presided with much bonhomie and ability. Mr. Lee (the president of the society), Mr. Thomas Cubitt, Mr. W. Cubitt, M.P., Mr. Piper, Mr. W. Herbert, Mr. Ansell (the actuary), Mr. Britton, &c., addressed the meeting; and Mr. Grimdell, Mr. Hayward, Mr. Sowerby, Mr. Nesham, Mr. Munday, and many who ought equally to be mentioned, were present. A gratifying compliment was paid to *THE BUILDER*, and a pleasant evening was spent.

A HOME OF TASTE.—Engravings shed their spirit over a household; the calm portraits of the great and worthy dead exercise a great influence over me. I could look on those over my own fire-place until they seem neither absent nor departed, but living yet. Every good picture is the best of all sermons and lectures. We imbibe the soul of the picture: our heart is a stream where the portrait is imaged. If we would truly school minds, we should exercise faith in good pictures. The humour and the cheerfulness of one, the serenity and contemplative quiet of another, the historical department of another; thus we may make our parlour an Art-Union—a Vernon Gallery; and when pictures are to be obtained so readily, it is scarcely pardonable if we do not. The sense informs the soul. Whatever you have, have Beauty. Let Beauty be on the paper on your walls. It is as easy to choose a paper suggestive of the lovely in colour and form, as the uncouth. Why should not every household object be sanctified with this grateful charm? Each chair, each table, each tea or chamber service, and every object for kitchen or parlour, for the home of the poor man, artisan, or mechanic, I would have them all worthy of a Home of Taste.—*The Public Good.*

CAMBRIDGE ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.—The second general meeting was held on the 21st ult., the Rev. the President in the chair. The president delivered an address, in which, adverting to the important services rendered to the cause by the older societies, and the rapid progress of the study, in the revival of which they had been chiefly instrumental, he showed that the consecration of art to the service of religion is a duty or principle acknowledged by all branches of the church from the first, but very generally lost sight of in this country until it was re-asserted by these societies, for the success of whose exertions he appealed to the many eminent artists in the various branches of ecclesiastical science at home and abroad. In conclusion he suggested that the province of this and later societies is to hold the ground which the earlier societies have recovered, and to furnish to such as desire it the opportunity of prosecuting a study which is daily acquiring increased interest, and ignorance of which will soon come to be regarded as a reproach to a man of education.

CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.—At a meeting held on the 18th February a paper by Mr. Albert Way was read, "On Seals used to authenticate the passes of labourers, &c., when leaving their usual place of residence, in accordance with the statute 12 Rich. II., 1399." By this statute it was enacted that no servant, labourer, beggar, or vagabond, male or female, should depart at the close of his term of service out of the hundred, rape, or wapentake where he was dwelling, in order to take service or dwell elsewhere, or on pretence of distant pilgrimage, unless provided with a letter patent containing the cause of his journey, and the time of his return, if his absence were temporary. This pass was ordered to be sealed with the king's seal, assigned for that intent, and deposited in the hands of some proper person (*probi hominis*) in the hundred, rape, city, or borough. Of such seals but few are known to exist.

ARCHITECTURAL SKETCHES, ITALY.—Under this title it is proposed to publish, at a very low cost, a series of Sketches of Villas, Doorways, Gateways, &c., made on the spot, by Mr. T. C. Tinkler, Architect.* Each part will contain four plates, and six parts will complete the work. The first part contains a

fountain in the Borghese Gardens; the Villa Medici, Rome; a page of Gateways; the Orti Farnesiani, Rome; and an ornament from S. Gregorio, Monte Celio, Rome. The entrance to the Farnese Gardens, partly the work of Vignola, was mentioned in Mr. Angell's interesting paper on the works of that master. (See p. 87, ante.) It is pointed out by some writers as the *capo-d'opera* of Vignola; we are profane enough to see nothing wonderful in it. Mr. Tinkler's work is inscribed to Earl de Grey.

DESTRUCTION OF AN UNFINISHED LIGHT-HOUSE.—During the storm of 4th ult., the iron structure in course of erection at Bishop's Rock, off Scilly, was washed away. It was formed of cast-iron columns, braced and stayed with wrought-iron rods. The centre column was about 3 feet 6 in. in diameter, and the entrance to the light was by the interior of this column to the hopper, over which and under the gallery were the living room, store, &c. The height was to have been 120 feet, or 20 feet higher than the Eddystone lighthouse, and the whole was rapidly approaching completion. It is thought that some unseen fissure in the rock into which the columns were sunk had weakened the foundation.

RESTORATION OF UPTON CHURCH, NEAR EATON.—The dilapidated state of this long shut up but interesting and picturesque old Norman edifice was some time since brought fully under the notice of our readers; and we are glad to see, from a letter by Mr. E. Jesse, in the *Times*, that active measures are at length likely to be taken for its restoration. Her Majesty has liberally headed a subscription (now amounting to 390*l.*) with a donation of 50*l.* Nearly 1,000*l.* more, however, will be required (1,200*l.* for the whole, or 800*l.*, at least, for the body of the church), and we hope that some of our more able and liberal readers will now assist in rendering the means a little more adequate to the end in view than they yet appear to be.

THE FINE ARTS AT SOUTHAMPTON.—A public meeting was lately held to form an association for the promotion of art, with a studio for the use of members. The Mayor was in the chair, supported by some officers of the Ordnance department, with whom the idea originated, and the hall was crowded with an attentive audience.

MONUMENT TO DUKE OF SUSSEX.—A correspondent urges that a monument ought to be erected to the late Duke of Sussex, in memory of his many virtues and good feelings, and recommends as a site the open space on the grass between the "round pond" and the Palace in Kensington Gardens.

PROPOSED LODGING-HOUSES IN CHIREA.—The rector of Upper Chelsea, the Rev. Richard Burgess, has arranged to build several lodging-houses in that parish, the rooms in which, with various conveniences, will be let at 1*s.* 6*d.* per week. The state of the London lodging-houses for the poor calls loudly for legislative enactment.

TENDERS

For three third-rate houses on the Leisham road, Deptford, for Mr. Barton:—

Crowhurst	£1,145 0
Stones	1,145 0
Walker and Super	1,170 0
Hurden	990 0
Goodwin	947 0
Symonds	915 0
Weller	852 0
Cooper and Bottomley	845 10
Davis (accepted)	815 0

For the restoration of St. Michael's Church, Cambridge (recently damaged by fire). Mr. Scott, architect:—

Peck, Cambridge	£1,950
Bradwell, ditto	1,650
Bell, ditto	1,000
Rattee, ditto	1,500
Edey and Chapman, St. Neot's	1,357
Attick and Quince, Cambridge (accepted)	1,317

For the erection of five carcases in Woodfield-terrace, Westbourne-green. Mr. F. J. Kelly, architect:—

Brace and Son	£1,617
Haynes and Co.	1,600
Ryan	1,380
George Wilby (accepted)	1,337

For alterations of Warehouse for Mr. Sam. Sugden, Aldermansbury. Mr. Tiliot, architect; quantities supplied by Mr. W. Wright:—

Hayward and Nixon	£3,377
Grimdell	3,100
Henry Burton	3,004
Brace and Son	2,990

* Published at the author's residence, 49, Great Marlborough-street.